

Experience of Editing & Reporting Broadcast News

At Boishakhi Television

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Sabrina Afroz

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1. INTRODUCTION

From my earliest days, I have been using my colorful imagination to understand the visual television. This never helped me to perceive a glimpse of the glamorous media world along with its interesting aspects of life and beyond. When I was a child, I used to think about interesting things that I watched in television. Those were mainly the stories of ghosts and princesses, and at most times it turned out that the ghost always wanted to hurt the princess and the prince came to the rescue to save the princesses' life. I was always fond of such amusing scenes and dreamt of being in the world of false reality that the television presented us with. As I grew older and started to understand different aspects of the media world, I started to possess a strong urge to work in the media industry. I put my first footstep on the way of my dream when I declared doing my concentration in Media and Cultural Studies. Though my dream of working in the media emerged from watching television; I had a great knack for print media. I was very much willing to work in any reputed daily which shows us the world of reality.

However, we know that things do not always work like fairytales or dreams, and hence, I made up my mind to work for print media or electronic media. The field of news has become a large part of the globalized world and I want to be a part of it.

It is known to all that media margins the entire world and presents it to us. News is main element of media, and we know news expands our knowledge; understanding and attitude, towards the unknown world. It updates our knowledge with current events and issues. It has the power to unite as well as divide the world through the very process of; influencing, making, breaking, as well as shaping our thinking.

I had the splendid opportunity to work as an intern in one of Bangladesh's leading television channels- *Boishakhi Television*. I started working at the English Newsroom Desk. A feeling of regret always remained present for not working in print media, which was compensated

with the excellent working atmosphere at *Boishakhi Television*. *Boishakhi Television* is different from other channels as very few television channels in Bangladesh have both Bangla and English department with possibly the most compelling and passionate news editors as well as newsroom Editors in Bangladesh's electronic media.

2. BRIEF HISTORY OF *BOISHAKHI TELEVISION*



Logo of *Boishakhi Television*

Boishakhi Television is one of the leading channels of Bangladesh. It is mainly Bengali language digital cable television channel which has English Department also. It broadcasts from Dhaka. It started its journey on the 27th of December, 2005 with the slogan of "Muktijuddher Chetonay" (মুক্তিযুদ্ধের চেতনায়). The channel has faced some technological problems, so it was re-launched in 2010 with revolutionary changes by introducing the latest technical support and new software-based system. It was accompanied by Destiny Group. Now the channel has its own fully state of the art Satellite Earth Station which is used to broadcast digital signal to telecast Apstar 7 satellite whose downlink frequency is 4009 MHz C-Band. It transmits from the Dhaka studio.

The channel is dedicated to the artistic production of television technology for Bangla speaking people all over the world. It presents a wide variety of programming including news, daily serials, movies, drama, live commentaries, talk shows, live talk shows, religious

shows, health shows, fashion shows, national and international sports shows, share business shows, music, puppet shows, cartoons, movies and many things. It also telecasts special programs for different festivals such as Eid, Puja, Christmas, Buddha Purnima, Nobarsha, Robindro joyonti, Najrul joyonti Valentine's Day and other special days.

This round-the clock satellite television channel portrays Bangla culture, history, geography, people, language and faiths responding to both national and international needs and demands of its worldwide audience. This satellite has a huge coverage area across South-East Asia, and some part of India. Basically it is popular in West India.

The name of this channel came from the 1st month of the Bangla year, "Boishakh" which symbolizes the new beginning of life. From the beginning of its journey, this channel has become popular for its news. It has several news desks like International, National, Local, Sports, and Share business as well as News Ticker. Telecasting news regularly, mostly after one hour makes this channel different from other channels. This channel telecasts both English and Bengali news for both Bengali and English speaking people all over the world. There are 13 Bengla news bulletins and 3 English bulletins in this channel. There is Share Business news (Artho & Baniijo), National news (Saradesh), International news (Boishakhi abong Sharabisha), Sports news, Entertainment and Cultural news. It telecasts Share Business news at 3 pm except on Fridays and Saturdays. The time of national news is 5 pm, International news is at 5.15pm, Sports news is at 7.40pm, and Entertainment and Cultural news is at 8.30 pm.

Several groups of intelligent, hard working and enthusiastic people are working at *Boishakhi Television* to give the best service to its audience. This channel is progressing day by day and if it is running like this, in future it will be the number one Television channel in

Bangladesh. It will not be an exaggeration if I say this channel has capability to become the one of the leading channels in the world.

3. INTERNING AT *BOISHAKHI TELEVISION*



Newsroom of *Boishakhi Television*

My first introduction to media education was with Cultural studies, a course during my 3rd year, and it continued through Translation studies, Editing, Copywriting and Globalization and the Media and English for Print Media courses. I have also attended 2-4 days -long workshops on Media Ethics and Journalism conducted by Oche Onaybadi, Assistant professor at Southern Illinois University arranged by BRAC University's English and Humanities Department. These gave me an idea about the contemporary media as well as journalism which helped me perceive the media world quite easily at *Boishakhi Television*.

Interning at *Boishakhi Television* was a great experience as well as a life time opportunity to learn many things about electronic media. I had a chance to see how things work in the newsroom. I have learnt different types of work related to electronic media, and I was able to relate it to the things I have learnt in my media courses. The memorable thing for me is that I have met a lot of people and made many good friends at *Boishakhi Television*. One thing I would say is that practical implication varies from the theories, so I found that studying media and working in the media are not same. While studying, I just wanted to get

good marks. I learnt things to get good marks; there was no responsibility, no fear that my work can hamper anyone's work or reputation. At office, there are a lot of responsibilities; responsibility towards other colleagues because everyone's job is linked to each other, responsibility towards the channel, responsibility towards myself. Also, there was pressure to prove myself a better intern for the sake of reputation of my university as well as my department.

I worked in the English Newsroom Desk and my job was news editing. English news bulletin mainly furnishes to the demand and taste of the foreigners at home and abroad. It especially targets the diplomats as well as English knowing people in Bangladesh. There was always difference between the Bengali and English news bulletin as the viewers of both news have different taste regarding news. So the first instruction for the employees of the English Newsroom Desk was to cater to the demand, taste and flavour of the foreigners especially the diplomats as well as people who know English as well as people who prefer English news rather than listening Bengali news. English department of the news media has become an important, popular and dominant sector in the media world for its gravity and quality of news.

The *Boishakhi Television* English Newsroom is governed by 16 members:

Editor in Chief:

Manjarul Ahsan Bulbul is the Editor in Chief. He deals with the Bengali and English editing sectors. He is actually head of the newsroom. His main job is to look after all sorts of jobs in the newsroom. As he is also the CEO of *Boishakhi Television*, he has to do all kinds of administrative jobs.

Head of News:

Ashok Chowdhury is the Head of News. He has to look after both the administrative and journalistic sections. He usually takes the news decisions. He also deals with the appointment of workers in the newsroom. Who will be appointed in the newsroom as well as for which post is decided by him.

Chief News Editor:

Rahul Raha is the Chief News Editor. He mainly controls other news editors. If news editors have confusion regarding news then he deals with that. He also does some sort of administrative jobs.

Senior Newsroom Editor:

Gautam Barua is the Senior Newsroom Editor. He is also in charge of the English Department. He decides which news will go on the television and he edits and reports news. He mainly decides which news will be aired on the television and in which form, whether it will be package or out of vision (oov). Whether they will make package or “oov” is decided by him. He also does the job of editing and reporting.

Chief Reporter:

Deep Azad is the Chief Reporter. All the reporters work under his instructions. He normally gives assignments to the reporters. He decides who will go for reporting as well as who will cover which report and when to go for reporting etc. He distributes the work among the reporters.

Sub- Newsroom Editors:

There are 3 sub-newsroom editors. They are Mukatadir Anike, Saad Bin Siddique and Syed Leon. They edit reports written by the Staff Correspondents, they prepare news from the reports and they also assist the Senior Newsroom Editor to run the newsroom.

News Presenters:

There are 7 English News Presenters at *Boishakhi Television*. Among them Sasuzzoha Doza, Jessica Tartila, Sabbir Ahmed and Eram Rahman are Senior News Presenters. Shoron Rahman, Noosrat Jahan and Nashtaran are Junior News Presenters. Their job is presenting news. I think they have the most difficult job in the newsroom, because if they fail to present the news properly; no one will watch the news no matter how good the news scripts are.

Reporters:

Senior Newsroom Editor and Sub Newsroom Editors also work as reporters for English news. Bangla Department has many reporters but English Department does not have as many reporters as the Bangla Department. Here newsroom editors fulfil the duties of both editors as well as reporters. Mithun Mostafiz is a senior reporter who works for both Bangla and English news.

News writing for electronic media is different from writing for print media. After taking other media courses for the first three years, I found writing news for electronic media is very different from academic writing.

While writing news for *Boishakhi Television*, I had to familiarize myself with the news writing method of *Boishakhi Television*, which is considerably different from the other media, especially print media of Bangladesh.

I was told on the very first day at *Boishakhi Television* that writing simple English is not an easy job. People who are good in English can write dramatic English, but it is not possible for all the English knowing people or people who are in English writing sector to prepare news for electronic media. It is different from others, and it takes a long time to grasp the writing style of electronic media. Years of experience is needed to master this task very well. Calorie Rich, in the book titled *Writing and Reporting News: A Coaching Method* says that whether anyone writing for print, broadcast or online media, one needs to master the

basic skills of reporting and writing. There are four steps constitute the basic process for all news stories. Those are:

Conceive the Idea:

At this stage editor/reporter develops the idea for the story. If he/she covering an event such as an accident, he/she needs to start with the idea-the main point of what occurred.

Collect:

This is the reporting stage. Before conducting any interview reporter should look for background information.

Construct:

This is the planning and writing stage. Before writing a story editor should make a plan for it. A good writer does not write a story without a plan.

Correct:

After writing the story/news editor should check it again and again. After checking it he/she can make changes if it is necessary and if there is time (12).

Boishakhi Television always wants to present the reality to the world and the people who are working here are only trained to present all the accurate news to the nation. All the employees working in the newsroom are promised to provide the factual information to the world. *Boishakhi Television* is strictly prohibited to practice Yellow Journalism. Sometimes there is political pressure while giving some sort of news which can affect the reputation of a particular political party or there is some sort of news which political parties pressure not to telecast. *Boishakhi Television* never cares about it. It believes whatever the situation is; it will raise voice for the truth and it will tell the truth to the viewers who believe that electronic media is giving them the exact information. Videos of news, rundown, reports as well as information regarding newsroom cannot go outside the newsroom. It is strictly prohibited in the channel.

During my internship session at *Boishakhi Television*, I did specific types of work. I had to prepare news based on the reports which were given to me. Sometimes, I also had to translate Bangla news “oov” into English. I had prepared national news, international news, sports news as well as headlines. I prepared electronic report, made packages on special occasions such as package on National Mourning Day, price of kitchen Market during Ramadan etc. I have learnt all the technical aspects of the newsroom. I saw how the editing panel works, how Program Control Room (PCR) works. Last but not least, I also had an exciting and interesting experience regarding reporting. I learnt how to do spot reporting as well as how to prepare reports for news. I also got a good idea of how news is prepared for the public to grab their attention so that they watch it. There are lots of television channels in Bangladesh. So it is a question of why will the people watches the news of a specific channel. Here, I have learnt what can attract people to watch news of a particular channel. The main thing is that, the more information a channel can provide to the public, the more the public will be interested to watch that channel’s news. People want lots of information about the actual news so this needs to be kept in mind while preparing news.

I prepared lots of news items during my internship session. Some of them will be shown later in this report, and I will be describing all the things that I have learnt at *Boishakhi Television* in this report.

4. PREPARATION OF NEWS

News can be described as newsworthy information about current actions or events. Jackie Harrison, in the book titled *News* says that “news is an orientation towards truth through truthful accounts of contemporary events” (2). Before going into the details of the preparation of news, it is necessary to know the things that make a story newsworthy. An incident about a man who is my neighbor injured in a motorcycle accident never becomes a news; on the other hand if a political leader has such an accident then it becomes news. Incident is same but one becomes news and another one is not. To know the reason behind this, it is essential to mention the things or factors that should be included in a story which can make it newsworthy. From my English for Print Media course, I have learnt that there are few factors or new qualities, which are considered when deciding if a story is newsworthy. When an editor decides whether to run a particular story as news, he will try to find out if the story meets each of these criteria. If there are a lot of newsworthy stories on a particular day then some stories will be dropped. Calorie Rich, in the book titled *Writing and Reporting News: A Coaching Method* says that Definitions of news are changing but there are some traditional qualities of news. These are given below:

Timing:

According to Harrison, “news assumed an immediacy and capacity for reporting events which rendered the ‘here and now’ as a standard for global reporting-any event, anytime, anywhere” (7). News means the things which are new. Issues which are recent are good news. People like to receive the latest updates. They do not bother with the old news. There is some special news in which people show their interest after passing many days. For example: murder of journalist couple Sagor-Rooni. It has almost 1 year since they were killed but still people show interest in their murder issue. A story needs to be told quickly to make it

newsworthy. If it happened today, it is news. If the same thing happened last week, it is no longer news as people will not show their interest about the incidents that took place 7 days ago.

Significance:

The number of people affected by a story is important for news. 5 people died in a clash might not be the leading news of the day but hundreds of people dying in an accident is more significant than a clash where five people died.

Proximity:

Stories which happen near to us are more significant. The closer the story to people, the more newsworthy it is. For Bangladeshi people, a bus accident in Canada is not more significant than news of an accident that took place in Bangladesh.

Prominence:

Famous people like political leaders, TV stars get more exposure only because they are famous and people are interested in their lives. If a common man breaks his arm it will not make the news, but if Bollywood superstar Shahrukh Khan breaks his arm it will be big news.

Conflict:

Stories involving conflicts that people have with government or other people are always newsworthy.

Unusual Nature:

Out –of- the- ordinary events, or people engaged in unusual activities are newsworthy.

Impact:

Reaction stories to news events that affect readers have impact, especially when major national stories occur in any community.

Human Interest:

Stories become newsworthy when people show their interest in it. People aim to evoke reactions such as enjoyment or sadness. Whatever the news is people need to show their interest in it.

Entertainment:

Stories that entertain readers make them feel good or help them to enjoy their leisure time have entertain value. For example, Sports news can be classified as entertainment (13-14).

These are the things that make a story newsworthy. When an editor gets newsworthy stories it becomes difficult for him to choose what to air and what not to air. After choosing the news, he along with his team starts the preparation of news. It is obvious that preparation of news is the most challenging job in the newsroom. Raza Elahi, in the book titled *How To Become A Good Journalist* says that not every story has to make use of all the elements known to journalism in equal degree. But every story needs to be carefully judged whether it has what it needs to be a good story. All stories should have a clear and crisp introduction which should be accurate and probably have all 5Ws and an H, which stands for Who, What, Why, When, Where and How (7). An editor needs to answer these six questions in his news while preparing factual news stories. They are important while preparing news items because news

is incomplete without the answer to these six questions. The five Ws and one H are given below:

Who: Who stands for who was involved in the incident?

What: What stands for what happened?

Where: Where did the incident take place?

When: When did the incident take place?

Why: Why did the incident happen?

How: How did the incident happen?

Getting answers to these six questions can give all the information about news and also can fulfil the desire of the viewers. I learned about these six questions in my English for Print Media course. Here, at *Boishakhi Television* I could see its practical implications as well. After answering these questions, the editor along with his team starts to prepare Rundown. Rundown is everything for news. Here, I will be discussing about preparation of proper rundown.

Rundown:

The rundown is built to make the order of information and the tempo of the news summary. It gives the full news summary with all its sequences in the right order. It includes all editorial links given by the editors, segments and visual things. The rundown is written one to two hours before the broadcast. Whole teams involved in the broadcast sector in the newsroom work to prepare a rundown. Whatever their job is, it is linked to rundown. A reporter collects news for the editors who prepare news and put it on rundown. A video editor

prepares electronic report and puts it into rundown. So, all the tasks in the newsroom are linked to rundown. Most of the times it needs to be added or deleted as incidents can happen anytime. Sometimes, it needs to be entirely rewritten if something huge happens. A rundown consists of Headlines, Out of Vision (OOV), Package, links, bulletin scripts etc. There is also an intro part as well as ending part. All the things have particular word limits and time duration which is strictly maintained while preparing news.

Welcome part and Ending of news:

Rundown starts with the intro part. Here the time of the news, whether its Bangla news or English news, name of the news editor, time duration, bulletin colour, greetings, and the name of the presenter are included. Rundown ends with the ending part where there is repetition of the headlines and also the invitation to watch the next news. A sample of it can make it clearer. A sample of intro part is given below:

9am (12-06-13)

English News

News Editor: Gautam Barua

Duration: 10 min

Bulletin Colour: Green

.....

Assalamu Alaikum

.....

Welcome to Boishakhi News

This is Shoron Rahman From the newsroom

.....
Now the Headlines

.....
Example of ending part:

.....
That is all for now. Before ending, the headlines once again

1. Parliament passes much talked about Anti-terrorism Amendment Bill amid BNP's walk-out
2. World Bank submits probe report on Padma project graft conspiracy; details of the report to be available in parliament, says Muhit
3. Clashes continue in Turkey despite Prime Minister's waring

.....
Our next bulletin will be at 10am in Bangla. Thanks for staying with us

.....
Headlines:

The heading or caption of news is a line of text helping to indicate what the passage is about. The most important items of news are bulletins. Word limitation for headline is from 12 to 18 words. It is strictly forbidden to exceed 18 words.

In Vision (IV):

Here we can see the presenter and hear his voice also.

Out of Vision (oov):

Out of vision is an item consisting of pictures alone, to be played on screen while the presenter continues to talk out of vision and provide commentary. The standard word limit of “oov” is 70 for English and 30 for Bangla. Because a presenter can present two words in one second in Bangla and in English they can present three words in one second.

National news items:

I have prepared many “oov” for national news items. To prepare the national news items, a newsroom editor needs to go through the reports which reporters bring from different places. Then he tries to assimilate the reports and prepare the news item. Sometimes when reporters fail to bring reports or in case of any urgent news he needs to take help from sources like Bangladeshi newspaper, BDnews.com etc. Sometimes an editor needs to translate also. Stories given by the reporters are in Bangla. So the editor needs to translate it in English. Sometimes English editors translate news from the Bangla news scripts. Usually they follow sense for sense rules while translating. I have not seen them translating word for word throughout my internship period. These are the things that I could relate with the things that I have learnt in my Translation Studies course.

I prepared soft national news items such as cultural news. I had the chance to prepare news items about legendary writer Humayun Ahmed’s 1st death anniversary on 19th July. Then I had a great opportunity to prepare some serious news items. I prepared news on countrywide dawn-to-dusk shutdown called by Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami to protest International Crimes Tribunal’s verdict against the party’s ex-chief Ghulam Azam for his involvement in crimes against humanity.

International news items:

Preparing international news items is little bit different from national news items. In case of national news items *Boishakhi Television* can send their reporters to the spot, but in case of international news it is not possible to send reporters all the time. So in Boishakhi TV, an editor usually goes through the Reuters, CNN and BBC websites and takes news from these sources. Then he assimilates the news and prepares news items. During my internship period I have prepared many international items such as news regarding Syria crisis, clashes in Egypt and other news such as earthquake, bomb blast, accidents taking place across the globe etc.

Sports news items:

There is a sports section in *Boishakhi Television*. Sports editor Trisha Bhokto edits news for sports but there is no sports section in the English Department. So this sports section is for both the English and Bangla department. English news editors take reports from this section and they translate the sports stories while preparing the sports news as this section works in Bangla. I prepared many sports news items. I was not comfortable with sports news and found it difficult. The thing is that in journalism, a journalist should have knowledge about all sections. Though I had no idea about sports I tried my best to do it appropriately. Finally, I could overcome my fear about sports news after dealing with the sports news. I prepared sports news about Usein Bolt, Tyson Gay's dope test, Bangladesh national football team's preparation match in Thailand, Premier cricket league 2012-2013 sessions, Brazil Vs Portugal international friendly football match, Cristiano Ronaldo's contract renewal with Real Madrid and many more.

Package (Pkg):

Ted White, in the book titled *Broadcast News Writing, Reporting and Producing* says that “package has all elements that bring a story alive: good pictures, interesting sound bites, and a well written script” (17). A news package is usually the longest type of storytelling. This is a self-contained taped news report. Usually, the news presenter will read an introduction live, and then the pre-recorded story will be shown. In news package, we can see the appearance of a reporter talking to the camera. This is called a "stand up" because the reporter is often seen standing in front of the camera on the scene of the story. Standard time duration of package is 1 minute 30 seconds and standard word limitation is 150. A package consists of link, voiceover, voxpop, sync, and byte. Link is presented by the presenter. Here viewers can see the presenter as well as hear his voice. Voice over is when we can hear reporter's voice. Voxpop is voice of people. This means when people talk to reporters in the news. In voxpop, we can hear more than one person talking. Sync is the short form of synchronized. Here we can hear the direct words of people who are related to the news. For example, if any political leader comments on some issue then he will be seen in the television. We will see him as well as will hear his voice. Byte is also people's voice. Timing of it depends on the context of the package. The difference between byte and voxpop is that, in byte, we can only hear only one person's voice wherever in voxpop can hear more than one person's talk. It takes less time than voxpop. There is another term “Ups” which is surface sound. Then I came to know about “aston” presents the details of the speaker which we can see on the TV screen.

I have observed making of packages many times. Among them I want to mention the news coverage of the verdict day of Jamaat-e-Islami's ex-chief Ghulam Azam for his involvement in crimes against humanity in 1971. My instructor Gautam Barua, senior newsroom editor and advisor at Boishakhi TV made a package on the verdict while Syed

Leon, newsroom editor covered the profile of Ghulam Azam in his package. Then I had the chance to observe another war-crimes convict Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mujahid's verdict day. Gautam Barua prepared the package on the verdict while Saad Siddique, another newsroom editor prepared the package on his profile. I also observed a package being made about National Mourning Day on 15th August. I also saw a few old packages made by my advisor Gautam Barua. One was about the death of the legendary writer Humayun Ahmed and another one was about the Japan earthquake.

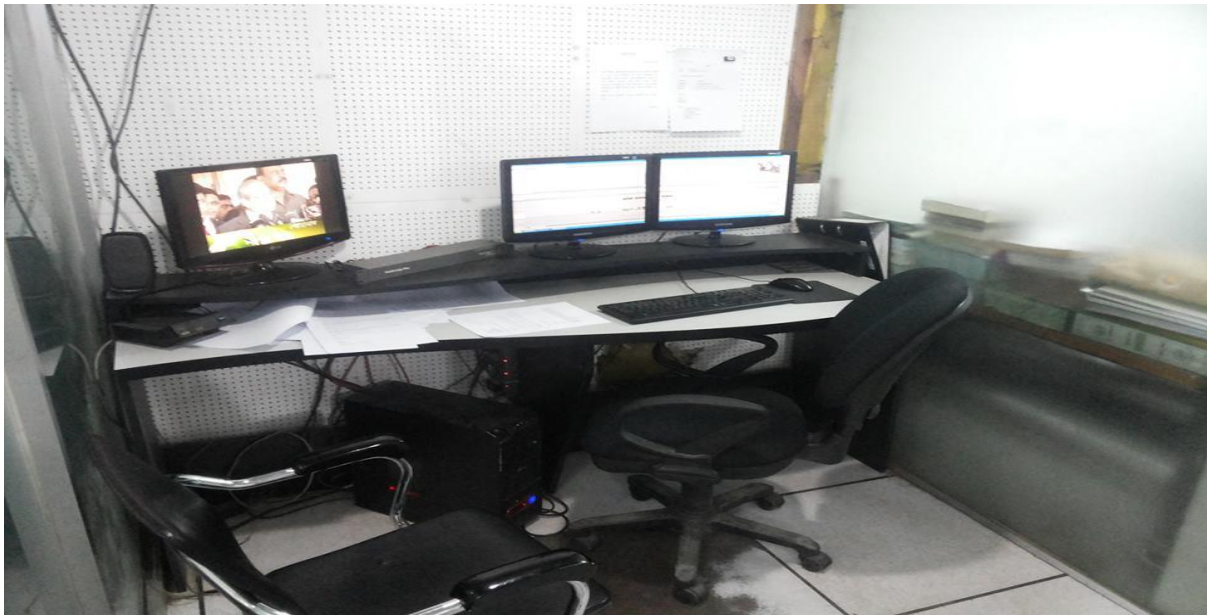
News Ticker:

A news ticker is an electronically broadcasted scroll that provides the latest news information. News ticker data reflects the most recent changes in the world. News ticker data is broadcasted on virtually all news channels, including *Boishakhi Television*. News ticker can be transmitted via internet. *Boishakhi Television* uses Wasp-3D software to transmit news ticker. I have learned transmitting the news ticker. I have transmitted news ticker many times.

Time Slots of English News at *Boishakhi Television*:

The number of English news bulletin is three. One is at 9am. 2nd one is at 12 pm and the last one is at 6 pm. 12pm is the time for headlines and morning and evening are the times for prime news. Total time duration of morning news is 10 minutes and evening news is 12 minutes. 5 minutes is for the headlines.

5. WORK DONE IN THE EDITING PANEL & PROGRAM CONTROL ROOM



Edit Panel of *Boishakhi Television*

Sound editors edit the sound in the video editing panel. I was taught how to prepare an electronic media report based on things like voice-over, synchronisation, sound-up and many other things. In the video editing panel, sound editors mainly synchronize the video footage and the sound. For example, if a reporter is telling that people are casting their votes but the video footage shows the counting of vote then it will be a mismatch. So they bring both the sound and video together. I also saw how a reporter gives voice to reports over microphone and the name of this microphone is Boom. When I went to the editing panel to see how a reporter gives voice to a report; I came to know that they use M-Audio sound card to give voice to a report. The total time duration of the package which I saw was 1 minute 19 seconds. I saw the synchronization of voice over with the video footage. I came to know that footage length depends on the demand of news. I became familiar with a few new terms such as pay-off, Nat (Network Address Translation), ambient. Pay-off is when a reporter tells his name and the name of the Television channel after reporting. Before Pay-off there is sound

up which means natural sound or surface sound of that place. Nat, ambient is also a kind of sound up.

Live on air co-ordination:

There are three units involved in “Live on air co-ordination.” They are broadcasting, production and in house units. Broadcasting is a technical unit which controls all the technical issues of the news. Program Control Room (PCR) and Master Control Room (MCR) are part of it. PCR controls the technical aspects of news and MCR controls all the technical aspects of *Boishakhi Television*. The script director works in the production unit. All the editors who usually edit and prepare news are in a unit called “in house units”.

Program Control Room:

I encountered new things during my internship experience when my instructor allowed me to go to the Program Control Room (PCR) with the News Producer Md. Aziz Rahman. In addition to that, he took me to the PCR before the starting of 12pm news bulletin. He explained me every detail of PCR as well as how they control news and put them on air, along with the other technical things. When I went to PCR I saw that the room was full of technical machines which I have never seen before. I did not know the names of those machines. At first, the News Producer introduced me to Online Video Editor, Sound Editor and other people who work in the PCR. The very first machine that I saw was BTR. This machine captured all the on aired news, videos etc. so that on aired news or videos can be seen later if needed. There were so many computers and monitors in that room. In the 1st computer they use Win Plus software. Through this computer they handle presenter’s script which they call auto queue and through this software they also give guidelines to the presenter. In case of replacing news or changing news they use this computer. In the 2nd computer they use Wasp-3D software. Through this software they control Phonocard, Aston (Presenter’s

name), live videos, 2-box, 3-box etc. How many boxes will be shown live depends on the news. Then I saw Robotic Consol which controls the Robotic Camera. The Robotic camera lies in the presenter's place. Then I saw Sound Consol which controls all types of sounds. If there is any problem with sound or if there is need to fix the sound, for example; if the presenter's voice needs to up or down then the Sound Consol will control it. After that there is the Online Video Consol which is maintained by the Online Video Editor. He mainly decides which video will be on air or which will not. Another computer was PGM which stands for Program. It monitors the video that will be aired. Another computer is for PVW which stands for preview. It previews the video and then transfers it to PGM. Then there was play-out 1, play-out 2 where all the videos are captured. Editing panel sends their edited or unedited video footage to Play-out section. The News Producer said that the play-out section, PGM and Video Online Consol is the main part of PCR. Then there is the router section where I saw Router-1, Router-2, and Router-3 etc. This section usually routes the videos. This section monitors the entire editing panel. In case of emergency or if the editing panel somehow fails to give the edited video footage, the router section directly takes the video from the editing panel and transfers it to PGM. The Online Video Editor mainly controls the Router Section. Then, I saw the live news bulletin of 12pm and how they were working and how News Producer gives direction to all the sections. After the news he said he has to maintain connection with Master Control Room (MCR). MCR gives the entire news related work to PCR. He again said if one section fails to do its duty properly the entire PCR will be affected because all the sections of PCR are dependent on each other. He said working in PCR is risky because if a little problem occurs it will affect the on aired news which will hamper the reputation of the Channel.

Studio:**Studio of *Boishakhi Television***

Boishakhi Television has a large studio. This studio is used for news and many programs. There are many different cameras in *Boishakhi Television* studio. I was glad to have a chance to see such a large studio.

6. SOME OF MY WORK

I have prepared national, international and sports news during my internship sessions.

Examples of my work are shown below:

National News items:

.....

CTG University-oov-Shakhawat

.....

Pragatishil Chhatro Jote has called a strike at Chittagong University today demanding reduces of admission form fee for undergraduate students in 2013-2014 sessions. A rally was held at the Sholoshohor railway station where a clash took place between law enforcers and the students. 15 students were wounded due to police charge. Police have detained 10 students from the spot. Members of Chhatro jote blamed the CU authority for increasing admission form fee by Tk 100, for each unit at the university. Student Union, Student Front and Pragitishil Chhatra Jote lay seat at University campus and Sholoshohor railway station. When law enforcers tried to prevent their movements; students clashed with them.

.....

Malaysia Bangladeshi return—oov/Majid

.....

Government will not bear the expenses to bring back the detained illegal Bangladeshi workers from Malaysia. They must return home at their own cost. Expatriates' welfare and overseas employment secretary Jafar Ahmed Khan said this while talking to newsmen at his office today. He said, those who do not have pass-port will be given out-pass to return home. The Malaysian authorities in a nationwide crackdown on unwanted foreigners that started on Sunday arrested 2 thousand 433 illegal immigrants, including 387 Bangladeshis. Jafar Ahmed also expressed his concern saying the recent crack-down on illegal immigrants might leave negative impact on Bangladesh government's new effort to send workers in Malyasia.

.....
 Awami League-oov/Shahnaz

.....
 There will be nothing contrary to parliamentary democracy in the upcoming general polls and the elections will be held under an interim government. The view was expressed by Forrest and Environment minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud at a discussion at the National Press Club on Tuesday. Speakers including Awami leaders in the discussion expressed optimism that opposition BNP will take part in the upcoming general polls the way they are taking part in the four city corporation elections. On another occasion senior Awami league leader Suranjit Sengupta alleged that BNP has taken up the path of violence instead of dialogue.

.....
 Tribunal/oov/Farah

.....
 Delwar hossein, witness against Chowdhury Mueen Uddin and Ashrafuzzaman Khan in the war crimes cases, gave his deposition before the three member tribunal bench headed by justice Obaydul Hasan. He was the only person who escaped from the Albodor group. In 14th December, 1971, members of Albadar took him to Mohammadpur Physical Training Centre and tortured him. At that time he saw many intellectuals including journalist Selina Parvin, lecturer of Dhaka University Munier Chowdhury, Mofazzel Hayder. He also told many people were tortured and killed at that center.

International News items:

.....

Guatemala Accident/oov/ Nayeema

.....

At least 43 people were killed, including at least three babies and at least 40 were wounded in a bus crash in Guatemala City. The crash took place in San Martin Jilotepeque 65km from the capital. The cause of the crash remains unknown. Sources said about 90 people had been on board the bus which had an official capacity of 54 passengers. The bus had been traveling from Chimaltenango to San Martin Jilotepeque.

.....

Pak/oov/Afroza

.....

Pakistan is set to swear in its new president, Mamnoon Hussain. He is set to take his oath in a ceremony presided over by Pakistan's Chief Justice Iftikhar Chaudhry on Monday afternoon. He takes over from Mr Zardari whose main achievement was presiding over Pakistan's first peaceful transfer of power between two democratically-elected governments. The swearing-in of Mamnoon Hussain comes as leaders of political parties in Pakistan are meeting to discuss the country's security strategy.

.....

Phillipine Kill/gfx/ Nayeema

.....

One soldier was killed and at least six were wounded in clashes between Philippine troops and around 100 suspected Muslim rebels. Officials said suspected members of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) moved in on Zamboanga by boat early on Monday. Clashes spread from the coast to the city's Rio Hondo area. Many residents have fled Rio Hondo to escape the fighting.

.....
Syria/oov/Afroza

.....
Syrian President Bashar al-Assad told there is no evidence that his government has used chemical weapons. In the interview with PBS he suggested his allies would retaliate if the West attacked. US Secretary of State John Kerry has been lobbying hard for military action against Mr Assad during talks with EU and Arab foreign ministers in Europe. Lawmakers will return from their summer recess on Monday to start discussing President Barack Obama's resolution to launch a limited, narrow strike.

.....
Afganistan attack/oov/ Ferdous

.....
Two Afghan police and one security guard were killed along with four attackers in an attack by Taliban insurgents on the US consulate in Herat. The Taliban said they carried out the attack, which began with a huge blast at the compound gates, sparking a gun battle near consulate buildings. Attacks continue despite the planned withdrawal of foreign troops in 2014. The US consulate in Herat was opened just four years ago in a former five-star hotel.

.....
Al-Qaeda chief/oov/ Nayeema

.....
Al-Qaeda chief Ayman al-Zawahiri, in a speech marking the 12th anniversary of 9/11, called for attacks on the United States. He also called a boycott of the world's largest economy. A summary of the roughly 72-minute speech was posted on jihadi forums. Zawahiri also urged jihadists in war-torn Syria not to cooperate with non-Islamists.

.....
 Delhi rape/oov/ Habib

.....
 The much-awaited closure in a case of punishment for the gang-rape and murder of a woman in India may happen today. Judge Yogesh Khanna will announce the verdict. Six men were arrested. One killed himself in his prison cell. Another, who was 17 at the time of the attack, was sentenced by a juvenile court to three years in a reform home. The woman was attacked on a bus in December 16, 2012 and died two weeks later.

Sports News items:

.....
 Premier Cricket/OOV/Sumon

.....
 Premier cricket league 2012-2013 is going to start from tomorrow. Walton is sponsoring the league this year. Bangladesh Cricket Board acting chief executive officer Nizamuddin Chowdhury said it at a conference room in Mirpur Sher-e -Bangla Stadium. Champion team will get 10 lakh tk as prize money while runners-up will get 9lakh tk. The matches will be held outside of Dhaka because of World T-20 2014. There will be three matches in inauguration day. Match between Champion Victoria Sporting Club and Kolabagan Cricket Academy will be held in BKSP at 9am. Match between Gazi Tank Cricketers and Khelagor Somaj Kollyan Somiti will be held in Bogra Shahid Chandu Stadium at 9am. Prime Bank Cricket Club vs Brithers Union's match will be held in Rajshahi's Shahid Kamruzzaman Stadium.

.....
 Friendly match—oov/Trisha

Brazil beat Portugal by 3-1 goals in an international football match at Gillette Stadium in Massachusetts. Raul Meireles of Portugal scored the opening of the match on 18 minutes. Brazil's Thiago Silva brought the equalizer 6 minutes later. Neymar scored once and entertained around 62 thousand fans. The last goal of the match was scored by Jo on 49 minutes. Brazil's next friendly is against South Korea in Seoul on October 12 and then they face Zambia in Beijing on October 15.

Package:

I have not prepared any package but I saw the making of packages. Among them I am mentioning a package which is about the National Mourning Day. I saw every detail of this package and saw also how areporter gave voice in it.

.....
 PM-Tungipara-pkg/Saad

National Mourning Day is being observed in due solemnity and honour. On the day President Abdul Hamid Advocate, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid homage to the memory of Banglabandhu by laying floral wreaths at his grave in Tungipara. Guard of Honour was accorded to the memory of the architect of Bangladesh Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Saad Siddique reports....

Voice Over:

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman- an adorable name for all peace and freedom-loving people. Sheikh Mujib was first to dream of Bangladesh as a country, free from the clutch of Pakistani clique, Bangabandhu-the best Bengali of all times-the proclaimer of Bangladesh's independence lies in eternal rest at Tungipara in Gopalganj.

Nat.....

President Abdul Hamid Advocate was first to pay homage to the memory of Bangabandhu at his grave in Tungipara.

Nat.....

The president was followed by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina who laid floral wreath at the grave of her father-also the architect of the nation.

Nat...

The Prime Minister with a heavy heart, perhaps, was recollecting the unforgettable moments with her father.

Ambient ... (long shot of Mazar)

On the National Mourning Day also observed as martyrdom anniversary of Bangabandhu, milad and doa mahfil were held in participation of cabinet members, Senior Awami League leaders and eminent personalities. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina along with family members offered prayers after completion of necessary formalities.

Pay off

Headline:

I have prepared very few headlines during my internship session. One day's headline is given below:

12pm (18-08-13)

English News

News Editor: Gautam Barua

Duration: 5 min

Bulletin Colour: Red

.....

Assalamu Alaikum

.....

Welcome to Boishakhi News

This is Sabbir Ahmed From the newsroom

.....

Now the Headlines

.....

1. No alternative to democratic transfer of power, says the Prime Minister at press conference
2. Uncertainty over next general polls due to government's stand says BNP; Khaleda to meet party's standing committee tonight
3. 250 megawatt electricity will be added to the national grid from India, says the Energy Adviser
4. Bangladesh should have trained volunteers to tackle catastrophe like massive earthquake, says Mozena

7. Reporting

Reporting is the presentation of news which is presented by reporters. Through reporting reporters collect or gathers information about current events. Reporters do it through interviews, investigations and observation. Reporters are given directions by editors to cover a particular event. This is known as assignment. They may be general assignments or special ones. Mainly reporters work with the packages. Normally we can see reporter's activities in packages. In package, reporters mainly do voice over, PTC (piece to camera) and pay off part. I have mentioned it before that in voice over we can hear reporter's voice and in PTC reporters mainly conclude their story and we can see him and payoff is similar to PTC but we cannot see reporters in payoff. Sometimes we can see reporters in Byte only when it is necessary, but they will not provide information in byte. I have mentioned about byte earlier in this paper. Repetition is prohibited in reporting but reporters can use references. There are some important things that reporters usually follow while reporting as well. They are given below:

How Reporters get News Stories:

Ted White, in the book titled *Broadcast News Writing, Reporting and Producing* says that there are some ways to get news stories for reporters. Those are given below:

Interviews:

Reporters can get stories through interviewing people who are connected with an event or incident. Television reporters take the opinion of people and sometimes they conduct long interviews with important people. There are some techniques to interview people while reporting. These techniques are given below:

- Has to study the topic and the person whom the reporter is going to interview.
- Asking questions that cannot be answered in yes or no

- Question should be precise or specific. Reporters have to decide how to ask question before the interview so that he/she gets appropriate answers from the interviewee just the way he/she wants.
- Reporters should establish their domination to the interviewee so that he/she will not ignore the reporters.
- Sometimes reporters pamper their sources to get more information.

Listening:

The second important thing for a reporter to get good stories is to listen to others. Through listening he can get important information which he can use as news stories.

Press conferences:

Another major source of news is the press conference. Leaders of political parties, important personality of society, Ministers, Organizations and Associations hold press conferences regularly from which reporters get their stories.

Covering events:

Reporters cover many events for their publications, channels or new bulletins. The coverage depends upon the importance of the event. This coverage gives them news stories.

There are some tasks that reporters usually do before reporting. Those are given below:

Before Giving PTC:

Before giving PTC reporters need to think about their background. They will not give it against sunlight. Sunlight may spoil their video because if any video is taken against sunlight, it becomes dark so they need to be concerned about sunlight. Another thing needs to be considered and that is matching of dress and background. If the background's colour and dress colour is same then the video will not be good. Thus, a reporter should be alert about the location before giving PTC.

Why reporters give PTC:

- Sometimes it adds richness to the report
- To have visual support
- To conclude the story

Types of PTC:

- **Start PTC:**

It makes the story dramatic. Avoiding start PTC is better for the reporters.

- **Mid PTC:**

If there are two different subjects in any story and it is needed to join them together then reporters use Mid PTC.

- **End PTC:**

The most used PTC is in End PTC. Reporters use it to conclude the story. (15).

What Makes a Reporter's Story Good?

Reporters have a busy schedule. Usually, they do not get sufficient time to write the story properly after collecting the information. So they work in hurry which sometimes makes their stories bad. But even in such a situation, they should keep in mind that the reader will enjoy a good story and they will remember a well written story for a long time. According to White, a good news report should have a few qualities. Those are:

Clarity:

A report should be in simple language. It should not be ambiguous. It should satisfy the reader's curiosity.

Focus:

A report should focus on the main theme of the subject. Their main job is to fulfill the reader's expectation by giving the news story proper information and substance.

Objectivity:

The report must be objective. He/she should never take sides. Their personal bias should not be reflected in the story. If there are two sides to a story, both should be given in the report.

Credibility:

A report should be credible. Before preparing the report, the reporter should crosscheck the facts and figures. It is always better to revise the copy before sending it to the editor (14).

Trauma Reporting:

I have learned very few things about trauma reporting. Trauma reporting shows people's sufferings. For example, reporting on natural disaster and accident is trauma reporting. In recent days, after the Rana Plaza accident some of the Bangladeshi reporters are being criticized for their questions. The most criticized question is "How are you feeling?" They are asking it to the victim's family members or asking the question to any victim who is fighting against death. This type of question is extremely prohibited in reporting and it can be asked only when the incident is positive or something that can make people happy.

Some important things for reporters before shooting:

According to Whitaker et al, there are some important things which are needed to remember before shooting. They are given below:

1. Reporter has to research the subject.
2. Reporters can take online help so that they can give proper direction to the camera person.
3. Reporters should check their shopping list. Shopping list is the things which will be needed to make a story. For example, if a reporter goes for a crime report, it would be good for him to know

- Statistics
 - Source
 - Appropriate interviewee
 - Place for perfect visual
 - Preparation for graphics(talking to graphics men)
 - Checking the archive(where different types of videos are stored)
 - Discuss with the camera person
4. Checking the equipment list, for example, tripod, camera, cable, microphone, boom, lapel, extra tape/memory card (283).

My reporting experience:

I had a great experience on reporting during my internship period. Though I have not interviewed people and did not give any PTC, going to the spot and taking notes for the editors was a great experience.



Sheikh Hasina at Haji camp on 6th September (taken from *Boishakhi Television Archive*)

The first experience as a reporter was about reporting news. The inauguration of Hajj camp was on 6th September and it was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. My instructor told me to hear her inauguration speech and point out the main things with one of Boishakhi's reporters. I heard the speech and tried to write down the main points. I also observed how the reporter reports it. He has shown me how he took the main points of the speech and after that he made a draft of it and gave it to the newsroom editor. Then newsroom editor composed news from it. He also explained to me how the reporters work. He was Bangla reporter so he reported that news to the Bangla Newsroom Editor. Later, I reported the news to the English Newsroom Editor. However, I did not make any draft of that

news. I gave him the main points of the inauguration speech and told him the details of every point. Then he made news of it. I certainly enjoyed my first experience of reporting news.



Jamat-Shibir's 2-days long Hartal (taken from *Boishakhi Television* Archive)

I have another exciting experience at *Boishakhi Television* on spot reporting. I was very excited when my instructor told me to go for reporting with the reporting group. It was on Jamaat Shibir's 2 –day- long hartal to protest the verdict of Quader Molla. I have been directed by reporter Tawhid Mithun that I should ensure my safety first while reporting. He told me how to fill exclusive footage. The interesting thing is that I saw a clash between the pro- hartal activists and the cops. These incidents took place in Mohakhali, Farmgate and the Bijoy Shoroni area. I was afraid when I saw the clash but it did not turn into severe one. I saw a little bit of cocktail explosions also. After experiencing the task of reporting I would say that reporting is truly a very hard job and I am yet to go a very long way to catch the hold of it. However, it was a really exciting experience for me which I will never forget.

CONCLUSION

This report focuses on the news production of *Boishakhi Television*. Though I was doing two other courses along with my internship, I have enjoyed this internship period very much. Three months is a short time for an internship but I have tried my best to learn from my experience. It may not have taught me every aspect of journalism and newsroom editing, but it has extended my knowledge of it. I had gained hands on training in reporting, editing and about technical things regarding news production while working there.

I have met a lot of people and made a lot of new friends. I have experienced how a group of people from different backgrounds work in a friendly and respectful environment. I see a bright future for me in this sector. This job also changed my perspective on news. Previously, I had no interest in watching news; but after some days of my internship, I started taking on interest in it.

It is really challenging to find good and solid news, but it is far more challenging to telecast each of them now -a -days for political interference. It needs a lot of courage to present the truth in a way that is interesting and appreciated. With the rise of globalization, television channels have grown immeasurably. It is very competitive to hold the audience. Only news quality can be a weapon to win the heart of the audience. *Boishakhi Television* tries their best to do this job properly.

Thus my experience at *Boishakhi Television* has taught me many interesting and important aspects of news writing in a new way. After finishing my internship I felt this short time is not adequate at all to get in depth knowledge about a newsroom. But within this short period I came to know that being a journalist or a reporter is not as elegant as people think it to be. I realized that it is hard and also interesting at the same time this has made me more interested in continuing with this work in the future as well.

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